IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CT 0 9 2001

Applicant:

BENVENISTE et al.

Examiner:

Chunduru, S.

May Serial No.:

09/673.555

Group Art Unit:

1656

Filed:

February 13, 2001

Docket No.:

9320.113USWO

Title:

AMPLIFICATION PROCESS OF THE FORMATION OF LIGAND-

RECEPTOR COMPLEXES AND ITS USE

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8.

Thereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on.

Terry Lee Hylk

RECEIVED

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a 4 (four)-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed May 5, 2001, said period of response being extended from June 21, 2001 to October 21, 2001.

Our check in the amount of \$1,440.00 is enclosed to cover the required extension fee for a large entity.

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Respectfully Submitted.

Merchant&Gould P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

Dated: $\frac{\sqrt{\sigma/2}}{n}$

John J. Gresens

Reg. No. 33,112